

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 106-75
9 JULY 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP86T00608R000300010008-1

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 106-75.4

1. SYRIA-IRAQ: SYRIA ADDED NEW FUEL TO ITS DISPUTE WITH THE RIVAL BAATHIST REGIME IN IRAQ TUESDAY BY SHUTTING DOWN THE IRAQI MILITARY ATTACHE'S OFFICE IN DAMASCUS AND BY RECALLING THE SYRIAN DEFENSE ATTACHE FROM BAGHDAD.4

THE MOVES FOLLOW THE DISCLOSURE BY DAMASCUS RADIO LAST WEEK OF THE FORMATION IN SYRIA OF A NEW ORGANIZATION OF DISSIDENT IRAQI KURDS-A PROVOCATION THAT IS SURE TO NETTLE BAGHDAD. THE ORGANIZATION, CALLED THE KURDISTAN NATIONAL UNION, IS LED BY JALAL TALABANI, A LEFTIST WHO IS SEEKING TO REBUILD THE KURDISH REBEL MOVEMENT AFTER ITS SUPPRESSION BY BAGHDAD LAST SPRING. TALABANI IS A LONGTIME RIVAL OF THE NOW VANQUISHED KURDISH CONSERVATIVE LEADER MULLA MUSTAPHA BARZANI.4

THE STRENGTH OF THE NEW KURDISH DISSIDENT GROUP AND THE EXTENT OF SYRIA'S SUPPORT ARE NOT KNOWN. TALABANI IS APPEALING BOTH TO KURDS IN IRAQ AND TO THE MORE THAN 100,000 KURDISH REFUGEES IN IRAN TO RALLY TO THE SIDE OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION.

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HE ALSO APPEALED TO IRAQI LEFTISTS TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH THE KURDS IN OVERTHROWING THE BAATHIST REGIME IN BAGHDAD.4

THE FORMATION OF THE KURDISTAN NATIONAL UNION IS NO DOUBT SEEN BY DAMASCUS AS ANOTHER MEANS OF PRESSURING BAGHDAD AT A TIME OF RENEWED TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. EARLIER THIS YEAR, DAMASCUS WITHHELD EUPHRATES RIVER WATER FROM IRAQ FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, APPARENTLY IN REACTION TO RENEWED MEDDLING BY BAGHDAD IN SYRIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.4

DAMASCUS ANNOUNCED IN EARLY JUNE THAT IT WOULD RELEASE MORE RIVER WATER TO IRAQ AS A CONCILIATORY GESTURE, BUT THE EASING OF TENSIONS WAS SHORT-LIVED. BY LATE JUNE, THE DAMASCUS PRESS HAD RENEWED ITS DAILY CONDEMNATION OF THE IRAQI REGIME. AMONG OTHER THINGS, IT ACCUSED BAGHDAD OF HAVING PLOTTED A RECENT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST AN IRAQI EXILE LIVING IN DAMASCUS.4

BAGHDAD'S RESPONSE TO THE RECENT SYRIAN MOVES THUS FAR HAS BEEN LIMITED TO PROPAGANDA ATTACKS AGAINST DAMASCUS AND TO PLEAS FOR INTERCESSION BY OTHER ARABS. BAGHDAD RADIO

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ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT IRAQ HAD LODGED A PROTEST WITH THE ARAB LEAGUE ALLEGING "CONTINUED" PENETRATIONS OF IRAQI AIRSPACE BY SYRIAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT RECENTLY AND THE STAGING OF VARIOUS INCIDENTS IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS BY SYRIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ALONG THE BORDER. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. SAUDI ARABIA: THE SIXTH ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE IN JIDDA FROM JULY 12 TO 15. THE DRAFT AGENDA—PREPARED JOINTLY BY THE ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT AND THE SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY—PUTS FORWARD A BROAD RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING AN ASSESSMENT OF THE VATICAN'S POSITION TOWARD THE ISLAMIC WORLD, CONSIDERATION OF JERUSALEM AND THE PALESTINE ISSUE, THE PROBLEM OF PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS, SUPPORT TO THE ERITREAN AND OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AND SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID. THE LAST CONFERENCE, HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR IN JUNE 1974, ACHIEVED LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE, PRODUCING THE EXPECTED RESOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF CO-RELIGIONISTS. THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION WAS PARTICULARLY ACTIVE AT THAT MEETING, ALTHOUGH IT DID NOT SUCCEED IN GETTING THE

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CONFERENCE'S SUPPORT OF ITS MAXIMUM POSITIONS. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

3. INDIA: NEW DELHI MAY WELL DISMISS THE NON-CONGRESS PARTY GOVERNMENT OF AUTONOMY-MINDED TAMIL NADU STATE IF IT CONTINUES TO HESITATE IN SUPPORTING PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S AUTHORITARIAN MOVES.4

THE IMPOSITION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY ON JUNE 26 WAS NOT RECEIVED WELL BY TAMIL NADU'S RULING DRAVIDIAN PROGRESSIVE FEDERATION, WHICH HAS GOVERNED THE SOUTHERNMOST STATE SINCE 1967. THE PARTY ADVOCATES STATES' RIGHTS AND HAS LONG OPPOSED THE CONCENTRATION OF POWER IN NEW DELHI. ETHNIC, CULTURAL, AND LINGUISTIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE BEHIND THE TAMILS' DEEP RESENTMENT OF THE NORTHERNERS, WHO DOMINATE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.4

SINCE THE EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION, THE GOVERNMENT IN TAMIL NADU HAS MADE LITTLE EFFORT TO ENFORCE THE NEW REGULATIONS. IT HAS ARRESTED ONLY A HANDFUL OF DISSENTERS, AND PRESS CENSORSHIP IS LIGHT. AT A MASS MEETING OF OVER 150,000 IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF MADRAS ON SUNDAY, CHIEF MINISTER

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KARUNANIDHI REFUTED MRS. GANDHI'S CLAIM THAT INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FORCES WERE IMPERILING INDIA'S POLITICAL SYSTEM AND HAD NECESSITATED HER REPRESSIVE ACTS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD OBEY NEW DELHI'S ORDERS AS LONG AS "THEY DO NOT GO AGAINST OUR CONSCIENCE."

SO FAR, TAMIL LEADERS HAVE TRIED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PARTY AND GOVERNMENT ACTIONS. THE MADRAS MEETING WAS HERALDED AS STRICTLY A PARTY FUNCTION. ACCORDING TO ONE PARTY LEADER, THE STATE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT A SHOWDOWN WITH NEW DELHI BECAUSE THIS WOULD GIVE MRS. GANDHI A READY EXCUSE TO DISMISS THE GOVERNMENT AND IMPOSE CENTRAL RULE. ON THE OTHER HAND, DISMISSAL WOULD GIVE THE PARTY A FREER HAND TO ATTACK HER AND THE EMERGENCY MEASURES.

IF THE PRIME MINISTER OPTS TO DISMISS THE GOVERNMENT IN MADRAS, SHE WOULD PROVOKE A CONFRONTATION WITH POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE NATION. WHILE SHE COULD IMPOSE HER WILL ON THE STATE, IF NECESSARY WITH THE HELP OF POLICE AND PARAMILITARY UNITS--EVEN THE ARMED FORCES IF NEEDED--SUCH

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ACTION WOULD INEVITABLY BRING TO THE SURFACE THE LATENT
SEPARATISM THAT HAS LONG EXISTED IN THIS KEY SOUTH INDIAN
STATE. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 106-75.4

1. PORTUGAL: SPECULATION IS WIDESPREAD IN LISBON THAT A MOVE IS UNDER WAY TO REMOVE PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES.4

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, GENERAL OTELO DE CARVALHO, THE INFLUENTIAL SECURITY CHIEF AND A LEADER OF A LEFTIST FACTION IN THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, HAS JOINED WITH COUNCIL MODERATES TO OPPOSE THE PRIME MINISTER. AN EFFORT MAY BE MADE TO OUST GONCALVES AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PERHAPS BY TRYING TO PIN THE BLAME FOR PORTUGAL'S WORSENING ECONOMIC SITUATION ON THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS COMMUNIST-LEANING ADVISERS IN THE CABINET.4

THE SPECULATION HAS BEEN FUELED BY RECENT STATEMENTS FROM THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY, WHICH HAS SO FAR SOLIDLY BACKED GONCALVES. THE PARTY YESTERDAY ACCUSED THE SOCIALIST AND THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTIES OF TACITLY SUPPORTING A PLAN TO OUST THE COMMUNISTS AND THEIR ALLIES FROM THE GOVERNMENT. THE PARTY STATEMENT

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DENOUNCED "RAMPANT ANTI-COMMUNISM," ALONG WITH THE PERSONAL ATTACKS ON GONCALVES. LAST WEEK, THE PARTY WARNED OF A POSSIBLE COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY COUP ATTEMPT AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT THE PRIME MINISTER AND PLACED ITS ADHERENTS ON ALERT.4

FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES, A MODERATE, RECENTLY SAID THAT THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT HAD GROWN INCREASINGLY SKEPTICAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND HAD DECIDED TO RESIST ITS EFFORTS TO GAIN POLITICAL SUPREMACY IN PORTUGAL. OTHER HINTS THAT GONCALVES IS OUT OF FAVOR WITH HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THE ABSENCE OF A WELCOMING COMMITTEE WHEN HE RETURNED TO LISBON FROM THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES AND HIS REMAINING IN SECLUSION SINCE THAT TIME.4

IF THE REPORTS OF COLLUSION BETWEEN MODERATES AND NON-COMMUNIST RADICALS TO SQUEEZE OUT GONCALVES AS PRIME MINISTER ARE TRUE, ADMIRAL VITOR CRESPO, THE FORMER MILITARY GOVERNOR OF MOZAMBIQUE, COULD BE AN

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ATTRACTIVE CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED TO THE JOB. CRESPO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER OF THE MODERATE FACTION, BUT HE HAS BEEN ABROAD DURING MOST OF THE FACTIONAL SQUABBLING THAT HAS PLAGUED THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL.Y

IN LISBON THERE ARE REPORTS THAT AN ALTERNATIVE TO SACKING GONCALVES THAT HAS BEEN MENTIONED WOULD BE TO REDUCE HIS INFLUENCE AND AUTHORITY BY APPOINTING TWO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS TO "SUPPORT" HIM IN DIRECTING THE GOVERNMENT.Y

GONCALVES AND HIS COMMUNIST SUPPORTERS MAY BE ABLE TO FEND OFF A MOVE AGAINST HIM. THE COMMUNISTS ARE STRONG IN THE LABOR UNIONS AND THE MEDIA, AND HAVE PROVED THEIR ABILITY TO SUSTAIN THEIR CAUSE IN THE STREETS. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 106-75-Y

//ARGENTINA: ARGENTINE PRESIDENT MARIA ESTELA PERON ON JULY 8 GAVE IN TO ORGANIZED LABORERS MASSIVE WAGE DEMANDS, ENDING THE GENERAL STRIKE. ALTHOUGH PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THE SETTLEMENT INCLUDES THE REMOVAL OF JOSE LOPEZ REGA AS WELFARE MINISTER, HE WILL REMAIN THE PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE SECRETARY.//Y

//THE GOVERNMENT SAYS IT WILL REVALIATE THE WAGE CONTRACTS NEGOTIATED LAST MONTH CALLING FOR INCREASES OF UP TO 130 PERCENT. IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO ANNUL THOSE CONTRACTS THAT HAD PRECIPITATED SPORADIC WORKER DEMONSTRATIONS AND FINALLY THE GENERAL STRIKE.//Y

//THE PRESS ALSO SAYS THAT THE ECONOMY AND LABOR MINISTERS WILL BE REPLACED.//Y

//IN A RELATED MOVE, THE ARGENTINE SENATE ON JULY 8 WENT AGAINST THE WISHES OF MRS. PERON AND FILLED THE VACANT POSITION OF SENATE PRESIDENT. ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION, THIS OFFICER WOULD BECOME PRESIDENT IF MRS. PERON LEFT OFFICE. SHE SOUGHT TO KEEP THE POST UNFILLED TO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF A MOVE AGAINST HER. THE POST

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WENT TO ITALO LUDER, A MODERATE PERONIST.//Y

//THE SETTLEMENT IS A MIXED BLESSING FOR TOP LABOR LEADERS. ON THE ONE HAND, THE WORKERS HAVE SECURED WAGE HIKE IN LINE WITH THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE UNION CHIEFS DID NOT SUCCEED COMPLETELY IN THEIR BID TO DISLODGE LOPEZ REGA. SOME OF THEM HAD COME TO REGARD HIS OUSTER AS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE WAGE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES.//Y

//THE LABOR LEADERS HAVE BEEN AT ODDS WITH LOPEZ REGA, WHO SEEKS TO UNDERMINE THEIR INFLUENCE AND ENHANCE HIS OWN. THEY WERE BACKED IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO UNSEAT HIM BY THE MILITARY AND LEADING POLITICIANS.//Y

//UNLESS MRS. PERON REMOVES LOPEZ REGA FROM THE PICTURE ENTIRELY, THE OPPOSITION TO HIS INFLUENCE ON HER POLICIES WILL PROVE A CONTINUING DETRIMENT TO HER ABILITY TO GOVERN. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM) E-2 IMPDET.H

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 106-75.4

1. FIRST CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE EC NOMINATED: PEKING HAS REQUESTED ACCREDITATION OF ITS FIRST AMBASSADOR TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.4

THIS MOVE BY CHINA FOLLOWS IN THE WAKE OF THE VISIT OF EC EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER SOAMES TO PEKING IN MAY, AT WHICH TIME THE TWO SIDES REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON SUCH A STEP. FINAL EC APPROVAL IS EXPECTED IN TIME TO PERMIT THE CHINESE EMISSARY--WHO WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM--TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS BEFORE SEPTEMBER.4

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ON A TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC AND CHINA--STARTED DURING SOAMES' VISIT--ARE CONTINUING IN BRUSSELS. THE EC COMMISSION HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATING TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH STATE TRADING COUNTRIES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY. CURRENT DISCUSSIONS ARE LIMITED MAINLY TO CLARIFYING THE TERMINOLOGY IN THE MODEL BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT PROVIDED THE CHINESE EARLY THIS YEAR. [CONFIDENTIAL]4

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2. JAPAN-NATIONALIST CHINA: TOKYO AND TAIPEI TODAY AGREED

TO RESTORE THE AIR LINK BROKEN LAST YEAR WHEN TOKYO SIGNED A CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT WITH PEKING. SOME TECHNICAL PROBLEMS STILL REMAIN, AND AIR OPERATIONS MAY NOT RESUME FOR A FEW MONTHS.4

THE JAPANESE HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO RESUME FLIGHTS EVER SINCE THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS SEVERED THE AIR LINK IN A FIT OF PIQUE OVER AN ALLEGED JAPANESE DEGRADATION OF THEIR FLAG. AFTER INTENSIVE PRIVATE TALKS WITH THE JAPANESE, NATIONALIST OFFICIALS RECENTLY AGREED THAT A STATEMENT IN THE DIET LAST MONTH BY FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA HAD CONVEYED APPROPRIATE JAPANESE RESPECT FOR THE NATIONALIST FLAG. IN FACT, MIYAZAWA'S STATEMENT DIFFERS LITTLE, IF AT ALL, FROM PREVIOUS JAPANESE PRONOUNCEMENTS. TAIPEI APPARENTLY FEELS, HOWEVER, THAT A DECENT INTERVAL HAS PASSED SINCE THE INITIAL DISPUTE; IT IS ALSO UNDOUBTEDLY MINDFUL OF THE LARGE PROFITS INVOLVED IN FLYING TO AND FROM JAPAN.4

PEKING MAY CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT WITH TAIPEI AT THIS TIME TO BE ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THE MIKI ADMINISTRATION IS

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SOMEWHAT LESS INTERESTED IN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE MAINLAND
 THAN WAS THE TANAKA ADMINISTRATION. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
 TWO COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, ARE UNLIKELY TO BE AFFECTED IN ANY
 FUNDAMENTAL WAY. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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